2. Ile not meddle with it, it is a dangerous thing,
It makes a man a coward. A man cannot ſteale,
But it accuſeth him, he cannot ſteale but it checks him:
He cannot lye with his neighbours wife but it detects
Him, it is a bluſhing ſhamfaſt ſpirit that mutinies
In a mans boſome: it fils one full of obſtacles,
It made me once reſtore a piece of gold that *I* found.
It beggers any man that keepes it: it is turnd out of all
Townes and Cities for a dangerous thing, and euery
Man that meanes to liue well, endeuours to truſt
To himſelfe, and to liue without it.
1 Zounds, it is euen now at my elbow perſwading me
Not to kill the Duke.
2 Take the deuill in thy minde, and beleeue him not,
He would inſinuate with thee to make thee ſigh.
1 *Tut*, I am ſtrong in fraud, he cannot preuaile with mē,
I warrant thee.
2 Stood like a tall fellow that reſpects his reputation,
Come ſhall we to this geare?
1 Take him ouer the coſtard with the hilts of my ſword,
And then we wil chop him in the Malmſey-but in the next
2 Oh, excellent deuice, make a ſoppe of him. (roome:
1 Harke, he ſtirs, ſhall I ſtrike?
2 No, firſt lets reaſon with him. *Cla. awaketh.*
Cla. Where art thou Keeper, giue me a cup of wine.
1 You ſhall haue wine enough, my Lo. anon.
Cla. In Gods name, what art thou?
2 A man, as you are.
Cla. But not as I am, royall.
1 Nor you as we are, loyall.
Cla. Thy voyce is thunder, but thy lookes are humble.
2 My voyce is now the *kings*, my lookes mine owne.
Cla. How darkely and how deadly dooſt thou ſpeake?
Tell me who are you? wherefore come you hither?
An. To, to, to.
Cla. To murther me? *Am. I.*
Cla. You ſcarſely haue the hearts to tell me ſo,
And therefore cannot haue the hearts to do it,
Wherein my friends haue *I* offended you?

1. Offend

1 Offended vs you haue not, but the *King*.
Cla. *I* ſhall be reconcild to him againe.
2 Neuer my Lo. therefore prepare to die.
Cla. Are you cald forth from out a world of men
To ſlay the innocent? what is my offence?
Where are the euidence to accuſe me?
What lawfull queſt haue giuen their verdict vp
Vnto the frowning iudge, or who pronounc'd
The bitter ſentence of poore Clarence death,
Before *I* be conuict by courſe of law?
To threaten me with death is moſt vnlawfull:
I charge you as you hope to haue redemption,
By Chriſts deare blood ſhed for our greeuous ſins
That you depart and lay no hands on me,
The deede you vndertake is damnable.
1 What we will do, we do vpon command.
2 And he that hath commanded is the king.
Cla. Erronious vaſſaile, the great King of Kings,
Hath in his Tables of his Law commanded,
That thou ſhalt doe no murther, and wilt thou then
Spurne at his edict, and fulfill a mans?
Take heede, for he holdes vengeance in his hands,
To hurle vpon their heads that breake his Law.
2 And that ſame vengeance doth he throw on thee,
For falſe forſwearing and for murder too?
Thou didſt receiue the holy Sacrament
To fight in quarrell of the houſe of Lancaſter,
1 And like a traitor to the name of God,
Didſt breake that vow, and with thy trecherous blade
Vnripſt the bowels of thy ſoueraignes ſonne.
2 Whom thou wert ſworne to cheriſh and defend.
1 How canſt thou vrge Gods dreadfull law to vs,
When thou haſt broke it in ſo deare degree?
Cla. Alas, for whoſe ſake did *I* that ill deed?
For Edward, for my brother, for his ſake:
Why ſirs, he ſends ye not to murder me for this,
For in this ſinne he is as deepe as *I*.
If God will be reuenged for this deede,
Take not the quarrell from his powerfull arme,

D 2

Line 3. cannot sweare. / apurse of.
24 Cla. awaketh not in 1598; nor in 1597.
Line 18 Spoke like— 20 thy sword-

Line 6 that do accuse 19 the